**Student Government Association Minutes**

January 29, 2013

1. ROLL CALL: Jessica Weaver and Chris Michard were absent. Tim Egan sent an alternate.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM January 22, 2013: They were postponed for approval until the February 5, 2013 meeting.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Stephanie Close*
4. Hi everyone. I hope your first week of class was great. Tonight we have Matthew Dellea from the Campus Center and Residential Life to speak about some employment opportunities in Residential Life.
   * + 1. Matt Dellea: Hello everyone. I’m here tonight to talk about the openings we have in our Residential Life staff team. We’re looking to hire close to 80 RAs and we also need to hire a team of 26 orientation leaders. I’m coming here tonight because, from all of you being student leaders on this campus, it would be great to have a number of you applying and have your applications come across the desk of a ResLife staff, as you represent the majority of our campus. By being able to share your experience as a student leader in the orientation or the RA position, is a great help to many of our students that are looking to get involved. Being able to come to our summer program and orient our first year students to show them what Westfield is all about, and possible get them interested in SGA, especially for those on the sister class council, as well as your voice in the residence halls. We have plenty of you in the room that are already in t hose RA positions and it’s great to have you on board with us.
5. I’m open right now to answer any of you that may have questions about the positions, or how you can spread the word to your friends or other students in your halls. Or if you’re a commuter student, we also need commuters to represent the orientation team. We do have community students who sometimes have those questions that our resident students can’t answer.
6. **Emily Baker**: when are the Orientation Leader applications due?
7. **Matt Dellea**: The Orientation Leader applications are due by February 7th by 4:00 pm, to the office of Residential Life, which is the same date for the RA applications. This is the first year that we have a combined process. So RA and OL candidates will fill out one application to help streamline and make it easier on our professional staff.
8. **Luiz Arzola**: What will be the requirements of a commuter for these positions? Will it be the same as for a resident? Some commuters might not apply for this position because they automatically think that because they don’t reside on campus, they are not qualified. So what are the requirements if they do apply?
9. **Matt Dellea**: The requirements are same for resident and commuter students, we still have the same position requirements. For the RA position, we prefer to have students who have experience living on campus but we do look at commuter applications. For the Orientation Team, you do not have to have experience living on campus. So we highly encourage commuters to apply because they bring a different view to our team. The main thing, about orientation, is that we are not looking for one type of student. We’re looking for a very diverse team, so we can meet the needs of all the different incoming students. Part of orientation is, that a student is able to make one connection before they leave for the summer before coming back in the fall, so odds are, they will be able to make those connections.
10. **Rebecca DiVico**: What will be the process after you turn in your application for either position?
11. **Matt Dellea**: After we receive your application, you will receive a confirmation email that it has been received, either from the RA section or NSO section email. After you turn in your application, you will be invited to our group interview day. All candidates we receive do get an interview; we don’t turn away anyone who does apply. The group interview day is Saturday February 9th. If you’re an orientation candidate, expect to be there in the afternoon. If you are applying for both positions, you will be notified of which time to attend, it just depends on our numbers. After the group interview process, you will have an individual interview with three members of the professional team in Residential Life, and the team will communicate withyou when tht will be, sometime in February. You will know if you have the position before you leave for Spring Break. Our goal is for you to have letters you can pick up on March 7th.
12. **Tom Durkee:** For those who may not be aware, when are the time frames for Orientation and is there compensations?
13. **Matt Dellea**: There are a number of time commitments for the orientation position. We do go away in mid-April for a weekend of camp training, and that’s mainly to build the team of Orientation Leaders. We do bring you back in June, Friday, June 7th and you’ll be here on campus until June 21st. There is a day and half you will have off, which is the Sunday of Father’s Day through the following Monday; You are free to go home and spend that time with your family if you choose to. The compensation for that position is a stipend of $700.00 which includes all of your trainings, all 4 sessions of welcome week and transfer orientation the following January. You also get housed on campus for free, all of your meals are paid for, and you get your uniform which is, two polo shirts to wear during the program, and we also wash those, so you don’t have to take care of your own laundry. You also get a fun clothing item; in the past it’s been sweatshirts, track jackets or rain jackets.
14. **Steve Evans**: If you’re an RA do you get to choose where you live?
15. **Matt Dellea**: If you are an RA, we place you into the building we think you’ll do best in. You are definitely allowed to tell us your preference on what type of living you’ll be in. You can say you’d work best with first years, mid-years, or upper classmen. But overall, we create the best situation for students in that building, so we place you where we know you’ll succeed
16. Thank you Matt, we now have Sue LaMontagne to speak with us.
17. Sue LaMontagne: Welcome back to the SGA room. It’s really fun and exciting to see you al ldown here and to see how much bigger the space is. For those of us who have been here forever, this space had never changed in the 25 years that I’d been here. It was somewhat of a blank, unused space surrounding SGA, so it’s exciting to see you all down here with your space, and club space. I can’t speak enough about it, so I hope you all enjoy it and take advantage of it.
18. There is a diversity consultant, who lives out in California, named Lee Mun Wah and he has been doing dialogues around diversity and multiculturalism across the country for a number of years. He has also published several books and he has developed several films, his latest being “If These Halls Could Talk” which is a film where he invited several college students from around the country to join him at a retreat center and spend 4 days basically getting to know one another. His philosophy is very simple, which is that we don’t experts to guide us through discussion about multiculturalism and diversity issues. What we need is courageous people to step forward and lead discussions where we can get to know one another. It’s through getting to know one another and each other’s stories that we will ultimately break down the barriers that exist. So he goes around, leading these dialogues and encouraging people to speak meaningfully about their personal stories. He is coming here and we’re very excited about. He’s actually quite expensive but we got a good deal because he’s actually appearing at UMass and wanted to see if he could book some other places along the way. Waleska Lugo-DeJesus, our multicultural director, is working to bring him to campus with Tammy Bringaze and myself and some other folks. He’s going to be here Valentine’s Day, February 14th, and I wanted to get that on your calendar. He’s going to be doing a keynote speech open to everyone, first thing in the morning, around 9 AM and he’s just going to introduce his whole philosophy to everyone who wishes to go. He’s then going to do a student two-hour session, and I think faculty is going to be encouraging students to go, so you may hear about in your class, extra credit, or dismissed to attend. It’s going to be 10-12. He’s going to do Faculty/Staff training in the afternoon for 3 hours and then, around 5, he’s going to end the evening showing about the first hour of his film and then lead a discussion. Bring your friends, a Valentine date, it’s going to be really inspiring.
19. Now for a completely different topic: Alcohol and Marijuana. I just wanted to give you a status as to where the policy change is. We’re just tweaking the final language of that and then it will go to a governance committee here at the college, namely the Student Affairs Committee, which is a sub-committee of AUC. Taylor will bringing it forward for discussion in February, and it will going before the Trustee board meeting in April, hopefully to take affect by next fall if approved.
20. Thank you Sue.
21. I accept the resignation of Stan Costa as Representative at Large.
22. I move to appoint Lindsey Keating to the President of Courtney Hall for the remainder of the 2012-2013 Academic year. Motion passed.
23. As I said last we, there’s going to be a lot of changes in positions, hopefully not too many, and we’re goping that should be done next week. If anyone in your council has transferred, is studying abroad, moved out of your hall, doesn’t want to do this anymore, whatever the reason, if they’re not here anymore, I need you to report for your council and announce their resignation.
24. On February 6th, it’s the Wednesday following the rededication, CAB and SAG will be hosting a Suicide Prevention workshop from 5:30 – 7:00 pm. We’re passing around a paper, so just write your name and council if you’re interested, just so we know numbers for that.
25. I wanted to throw an idea out there, brought to my attention by Dr. Carlton Pickron. How would you all feel about collecting the GPA of SGA so that we can say what the SGA average GPA is? Athletics and other organizations do this, and your name would not be attaché to it. If anyone does oppose this, feel free to express that. We just want to show that we are involved on campus but we still succeed in academics. Anyone opposed to doing this? No one is opposing, but if anyone wants to oppose privately, please just see me after.
26. **Dr. Carlton Pickron**: The next step will be to seek each of your overall GPAs and then calculate the mean score of all the GPAs. Just so we can tell how well our students are doing.
27. **Rebecca DiVico**: Who will be the ones seeing these grads?
28. **Barbara Hand**: I will probably be the one accessing that, I have been approved by the University to see that. But it won’t go any farther than just for calculating the total average anonymously.
29. State of the Campus Address is one week from today in Dever Stage at 4:00 pm. If you have a class conflict, please see me and I will make sure your professors are contacted to see if they will excuse you from class, for this event and legitimize your position on senate. An email has already been sent to Fac/Staff about this event, so please just let them know that you want to attend. It’s really important that all of you guys try to be there at the State of the Campus Address and the rededication right after that. It is a dress code event and please wear the pins that Carlton Pickron gave you. New Senators, I have WSU pins for you. We try to look nice, the Mayor and the University President will be there, as well as Peter Mazza. The rededication will be at 5:00 pm, so our meeting will start around 6:00 pm, and I know that’s late but we have some finance proposals and we will have two sets of minutes to approve, so there’s business that needs to be taken care of.
30. After the meeting, can I please see Steven Evans, Luiz Arzola, the Courtney Hall Council, and any other new senators that are getting appointed tonight, in my office?
31. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, February 5th immediately following the rededication.
32. Items not listed on Agenda.
33. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Stone Koury*
34. I have two important dates I want to let you guys know about.
    * + 1. First, we have the upcoming Student Leadership Conference, Friday, March 1st from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm at Fitchburg State University. The details of this event will be fully developed and finished this Thursday, January 30th at SAC, but I want you all to think about attending. There will be many workshops along with a keynote speaker, this event will focus on Civic Engagement and lead into the next date.
        2. March 5th, Public Higher Education Advocacy Day. It is a day when all the Public Schools in Massachusetts ascend on the State House to advocate for Higher Education. We really do make a small difference and it is a great experience.
        3. Next week, after all the festivities, will be formal sign-ups for both dates, so please think about attending and feel free to ask me about any questions you may have.
35. All University Committee: **No Report**
36. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
37. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Taylor Fote*
38. I have a few quick things to talk to you tonight about.
    * + 1. I need one more student for the parking appeals board. This is a board that meets on a as need basis and the meeting are fairly quick. This is an extremely important committee that needs students; I know a few of you need another committee. It meets on Thursdays at 12:30 pm in Wilson 418, and the first meeting is this Thursday, January 31st, so I really need someone there.
        2. The Blood Drive is Wednesday, February 13th, so I need people for signups in the DC next week and the day of the drive. So now I am passing around a signup sheet, the first one is for the DC sitting. We are sitting in the DC on Monday through Thursday from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm and Monday, Wednesday and Thursday night from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm, so don’t worry you won’t have to miss SGA, so your welcome, if you can’t make the whole time just specify the time you can volunteer next to your name. The second sheet is for the day of the Blood drive, there are two time chinks that you can sign up for, the first half and second half. If you can only help out for an hour that’s till really helpful and again just put the time you can be there next to your name, and I will contact you all via email. I know you’re all jumping to help our, but as another incentive is that all of your volunteer time is a unit opportunity. It will be really helpful for me.
        3. Just a friendly reminder that the housing deposit is still due March 1st and you don’t want to miss that.
        4. If I can have all the sheets that went around after the meeting that would be great.
        5. Can I see the Hall Council Presidents after the meeting, just over on the couches?
39. Health Committee: **No Report**
40. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
41. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **Steven Evans**
42. Hello friends. I just thought I’d let you know what’s coming up in the Athletics Department.
43. On February 11th in Woodward, we have a speaker coming to talk about gaining lean body mass, which is open to everyone. So, if you have a New Year’s resolution to be fit, or that sounds interesting, I will have more information on that next week.
44. On Thursday, February 7th, the Athletics Department is hosting their 3.0 Reception Dinner, with pizza and we encourage people to come and support the athletes. Last year, over 50% of the athletes had a GPA over 3.0 so that’s pretty impressive.
45. Most importantly, this Thursday, January 31st, our men’s hockey team who’s is in second place, will be hosting the first place team, Plymouth State at Amelia Park. So it’s going to be a good time, it’s going to be a battle, there’s definitely a rivalry brewing. So, I encourage you to come out and join us if you can. We’re going for a whiteout theme. The hockey team will be in the DC selling t-shirts for $5.00 that will get you free admission to the game; otherwise, it will be $1.00 admission at the gate. Hope to see you Thursday.

**Stephanie Close**: I would like to congratulate Steve Evans on being Player of the week.

1. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
2. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Rebecca DiVico*
2. On Wednesday, February 13th George Mehaffy, the Vice President of Academic Leadership and Change at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities will be speaking in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. He will be talking about the future of public higher education and the pressures that come along with it. Some of these pressures include student debt, the cost of schooling, and low graduation rates. Academic Affairs would really like to see students there, especially those on student government. It will be a unit opportunity for February.
3. Can I see the Representatives at Large in the conference room after the meeting?
4. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
5. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
6. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
7. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
8. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
9. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
10. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
11. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Michelle Hanney*
12. Programming update: Michelle Hanney
13. I hope everyone is having a great start to the week. I have a couple of things tonight.
14. Winter Weekend was a huge success. All events from Thursday, January 24th to Sunday, January 27th were very well attended. We are even thinking about planning another open skate at Amelia Park Rink for some time in late spring.
15. The next event we have going on it Trivia Tomorrow night, January 30th at 8:00 pm in the Nest.
16. Then next week Wednesday, February 6th at 8:00 pm we have a comedian coming and he will be in the Nest as well.
17. On February 21st at 7:30 pm in Dever Stage will be WSU’s Got Talent. So if you know anyone whit any talent, tell them to sign up through messaging the CAB Facebook. The prize for the winner will be four tickets to a Bruins game as well as a ride their and back in a Limousine.
18. Can I see Priscilla Aguilar after the meeting?
19. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Joshua Frank*
20. Finance Report: **No Report**
21. Foundation Report**: No Report**
22. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Alexis Wagner*/*Sarah Hegarty*
23. Executive Secretary Report: Alexis Wagner
24. I’m excited to announce that we’re forming the committee for the campus wide semi-formal dinner/dance, the Owl Ball, previously known as the Senate Banquet Committee.
25. The Owl Ball Committee is going to be making some big decisions about the event’s design, schedule, food and procedures. It’s going to be a big commitment, like in the spring there will be a few weeks to keep us busy with table and seating assignments, so if you have a big internship or other important commitments, this might not be the committee for you, but it’s a really interesting and rewarding committee to sit on if you like event planning or marketing, so I’m going to need two students from each class, Barbara Hand will select from the names if there are more than two per grade that are interested.
26. Freshman Class: Tara Saraf and Shannon McElhiney
27. Sophomore Class: Olivia Dumas and Jackie Green
28. Junior Class: Jenn McDiarmid and Katie Morrisey
29. Senior Class: Hannah Kelley and Caitlyn Greenleaf
30. I have Senator of the Week nomination forms available in my office, so nominate a fellow senator for their notable work.
31. Legislative Secretary Report: **No Report**
32. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: Isaac Matson
33. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
34. Commuter Council: **Luis Arzola**
35. The Commuter Council is looking for members for the cabinet, we are working on several prospects; our general interest meeting will be held February 6th in room 20 from 11:30 pm until 1:30 pm. Please encourage your commuter friends to participate; a gift will be provided for those who attend.
36. Wednesday, February 13th, we will initiate the signature collection for the bus pass petition as well as celebrate Valentine’s Day; we are working on the items that will be given to the participants such as candy, cookies, pens etc…\_) We will keep you posted with other activities.
37. Our next scheduled meeting is January 29th at 1:30 in room 20 of the Ely Campus center.
38. Senior Class: **Brandon Burr**
    1. So Sweatshirts are still on sale until the 31st of January, so please tell your friends, you only have a couple more days to buy one. Barbara Hand just told me we are on or around 80 sold, so we are really excited.
    2. We have just made an official Facebook group for Senior Fest, so if you have friends who have questions please send them to that page or down here to Barbara Hand or Kim Hosmer for any questions.
    3. I would like to announce our Council will be hosting a walk for Suicide Awareness and we are in contact with the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention and have interns and workers helping us out to make this walk a huge success. Our Tentative date is Sunday, April 7th. There will be more details to follow.
    4. Council member, Michelle Brown has set up a great fundraiser with Applebee’s and Next Thursday, February 7th Applebee’s donates a portion of profits they make that night to our class council. So, everyone go out next Thursday to support our class.
    5. Finally, I would like to appoint Stan Costa to be the designee for Emily Hamel for the remainder of the 2012-2013 academic year. Motion passed.
39. Junior Class: **No Report**
40. Sophomore Class: **Richard Darrach**
    * + 1. The Class of 2015 is working hard on our event, Dancing with the Stars, which is March 1st at 7:00 pm in Dever stage, so mark your calendars. We have a couple of fundraisers for it coming up.
41. We have Owl Candy grams, which will be sold the week of February 11th in the Ely lobby by Dunkin Donuts and the commuter Café in Wilson. The actual Candy Grams will consist of Hershey Hugs and Kisses and a little “owl inspired” message or a message of your choice. They are $1.00 and you can choose to put that $1.00 towards your favorite Dancing with the Stars contestants and give them Fundraising points.
42. Notifications for Candy Grams will be delivered to rooms and then the actual candy grams can be picked up at the RA’s desks from 9:00 pm – 11:00 pm on Valentine’s day
43. We will also be doing a fundraiser at the February 22nd Brown Bag Bingo, where you can pay $1.00 for an extra card and again, choose to put it in support of your favorite couple.
44. Last but not least can I see Matt Dellea and Carlton Pickron at the end of the meeting?
45. Our next scheduled meeting is January 30th, at 4:30 pm in the SGA Conference room.
46. Freshman Class: **Melvin Rivera**
47. We are planning on having a line Dancing program on February 11th from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm hopefully in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. There will be a $1.00 entrance fee for everyone and this is open to all classes. We will possibly have the Step Team perform for the last half hour.
48. We also plan on having a movie night sometime during Valentines week the time and date will be announced. This will be with the Campus Center
49. Our next scheduled meeting will be on January 31st at 5:30 pm in the SGA Conference Room.
50. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
51. Courtney Hall**: Lindsey Keating**
    * + 1. I move to appoint Joshua Clark as a Courtney Hall Representative to Senate for the remainder of the 2012-2013 Academic year. Motion passed.
        2. I move to appoint Katie Wilga as a Courtney Hall Representative to Senate for the remainder of the 2012-2013 Academic year. Motion passed.
        3. I move to appoint Jocelyn Beauregard as a Courtney Hall Representative to Senate for the remainder of the 2012-2013 Academic year. Motion passed.
        4. I move to appoint Melissa Zeitlin as a Courtney Hall Representative to Senate for the remainder of the 2012-2013 Academic year. Motion passed.
52. Davis Hall: **Justin Connolly**
53. I accept the resignation of Gabrielle Conenti as Davis Hall Representative to Senate.
54. I move to appoint Joshua Minardi as a Davis Hall Representative to Senate for the remainder of the 2012-2013 Academic year. Motion passed.
55. Dickinson Hall: **Samantha Dacey**
    * + 1. We will be buying a new vacuum and cooking items**.**
56. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
57. Lansdowne Hall: **Allyson McElhiney**
    * + 1. I have accepted the resignation of our Lansdown Vice President Blessing Nneji.
        2. We are meeting with a student tomorrow night, February 30th in regards to our open Representative to Senate position.
        3. We are also hosting a “Wings Wednesday” tomorrow, January 30th at 9:00 pm in the Lansdown lounge.
        4. at 9:00 pm in the Lansdowne Lounge.
58. New Hall: **No Report**
59. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
60. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**
61. NEW BUSINESS:
62. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
63. **Sarah Hegarty**: The Suicide Prevention event on February 6th is worth 2 units and the January units are due to the Leg Sec email this Thursday, January, 31st.
64. **Taylor Fote**: Can I have all those papers I sent out, back? And can I see the Hall Councils to the side after this?
65. **Isaac Matson**: Rules and Regulations, we just need to meet quickly after this.
66. **Michelle Hanney**: Can I see Priscilla Aguilar after the meeting?
67. **Rebecca DiVico**: Can I see the Reps at Large after the meeting?
68. **Stephanie Close**: Can I get the Suicide Prevention sign up back? I have the Momba Focus group sign up as well. Can I see all new senators, Steve Evans, Luiz Arzola, and the Courtney Hall Council?
69. **Richard Darrach**: I just want to say: you’re all awesome. Thank lyou.
70. **Brandon Burr**: Two more days to buy sweatshirts and 108 days until commencement.
71. ROLL CALL: Chris Michaud and John Dowd were absent. Tim Egan sent an alternate
72. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.